

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

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NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

Week Ending April 17, 1988

Issue: 06-88

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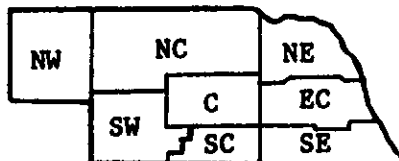
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Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

The week was mild and dry. Warm days and a few cool nights made the average temperatures near normal averaging from three degrees above to two degrees below normal.

GENERAL

Cooler temperatures last week helped to hold soil moisture levels, while most areas continued to be in need of precipitation. The dry weather has allowed row crop seedbed preparation and small grain seeding to progress rapidly statewide. Most producers, however, are continuing to wait for warmer soil temperatures before planting corn. Other farm activities for the week consisted of: livestock care, fixing fence, conservation work, hauling manure and cleaning lots. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6.2.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 53% short and 47% adequate. Subsoil moisture condition rated 18% short and 82% adequate. Last year, topsoil moisture rated 45% adequate and 55% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 57% adequate and 43% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 42% fair, 54% good and 4% excellent, unchanged from last week. The wheat crop was beginning to green up across the state despite the lack of soil moisture. Russian wheat aphids continue to be found in small numbers in the Panhandle and Southwest.

Corn planting made little progress due to cool soil temperatures and was at 2% complete compared to none last year and 1% average.

The mild, dry weather of last week allowed oat seeding to progress rapidly to 85% complete compared to 53% last year and 44% average. Sugar beet, spring barley and alfalfa seeding were also well underway. Summer potato planting was virtually complete.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture feed supplies rated 6% short and 94% adequate. Limited moisture and cool temperatures have slowed spring growth of grasses. Summer pastures were greening up, however, and some producers were beginning to turn out cattle. Livestock were in good shape and making good gains.

Precipitation, April 1 - April 15, 1988

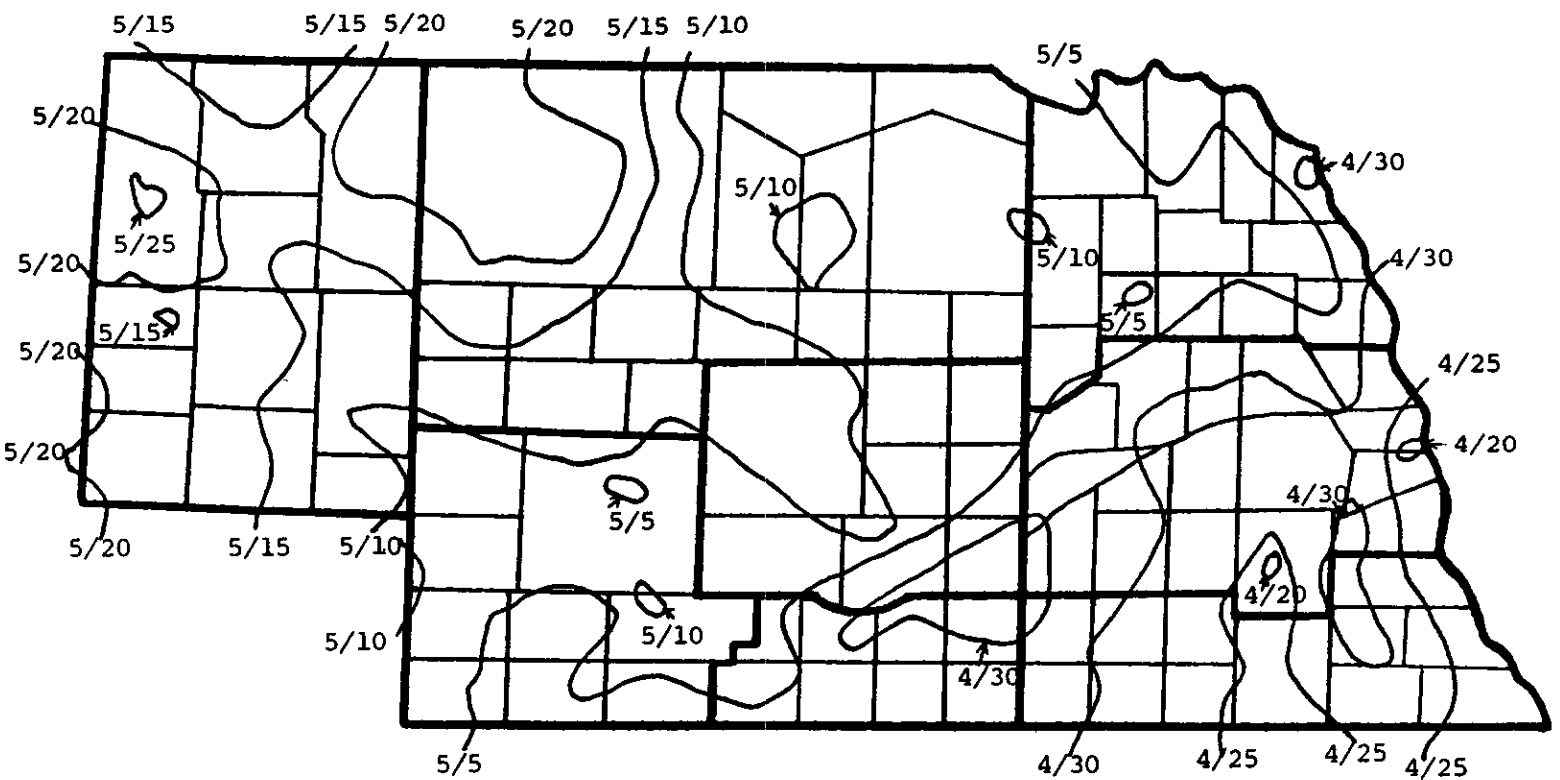
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week01	.06	.27	.13	.32	.02	.17	.43
Total since April 102	1.26	1.29	1.54	1.18	1.20	1.00	1.75
Normal since April 180	1.05	1.20	1.19	1.35	.87	1.05	1.35

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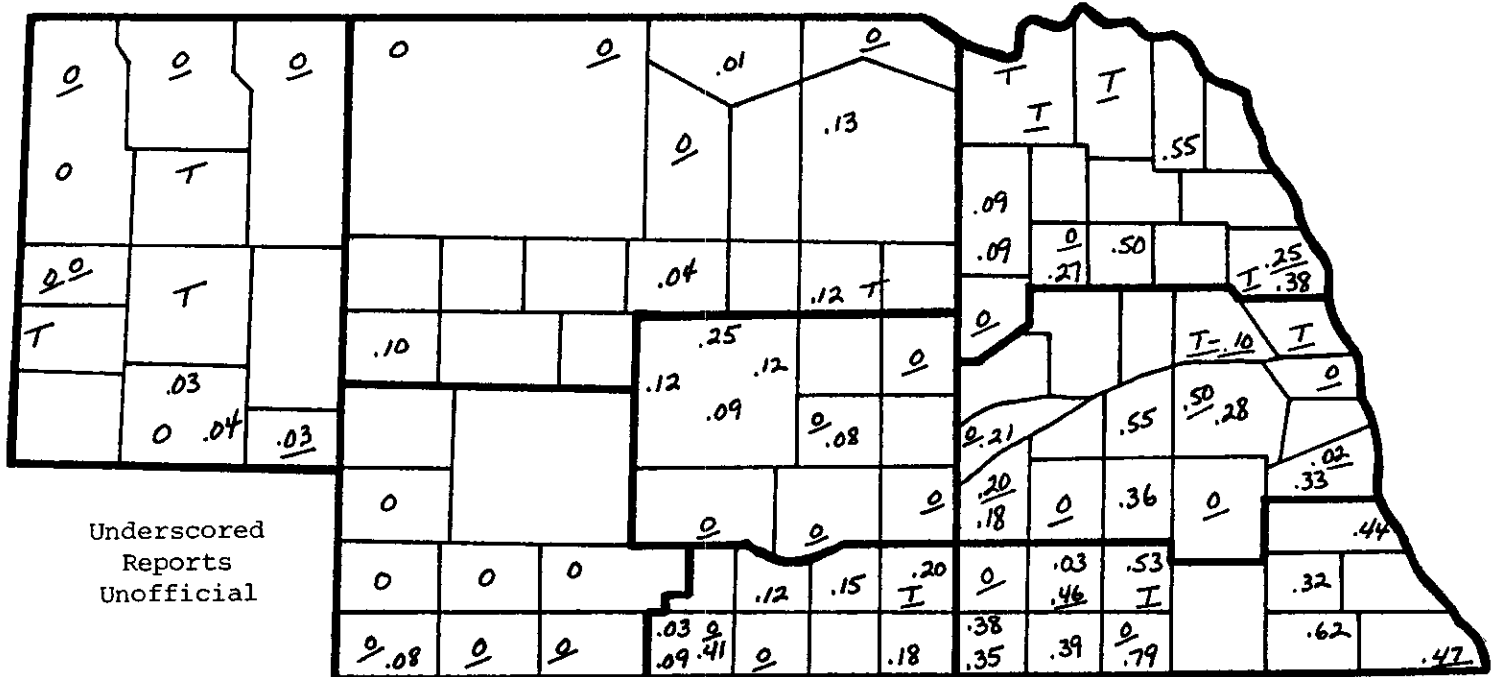
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AVERAGE DATE OF LAST 32°F TEMPERATURE IN SPRING 1/



1/ Map based on data from the 50-year period 1921-1970.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1988



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1988

Station		Temperature			Precipitation	
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1</u> / <u></u>
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	83	20	49	--	0
	Scottsbluff	81	20	49	+3	0
	Sidney	76	23	48	--	0
NC	Ord	76	22	48	--	0
	Valentine	80	17	48	+3	0
NE	Norfolk	74	25	48	0	0
	Sioux City	73	24	48	-1	.03
CEN	Grand Island	75	24	49	-1	T
EC	Lincoln	82	25	49	-2	T
	Omaha	74	33	51	+1	T
SW	Imperial	78	19	50	--	0
	North Platte	79	25	50	+3	0

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.